



PARADISE IN PROGRESS

Downtown Construction and Special Event E-News

Paradise in Progress is a public/private partnership, led by a steering committee comprised of the Associated General Contractors, Centre City Development Corporation, City of San Diego, Downtown San Diego Partnership, East Village Association, Gaslamp Quarter Association, Little Italy Association, Metropolitan Transit Development Board, San Diego Convention Center Corporation, San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau, San Diego Padres, and Port of San Diego.

December 5, 2007

Downtown Construction

Gaslamp

Hard Rock Hotel Now Open

The Hard Rock Hotel, a 420-suite condo hotel at Fifth Avenue and K Street has opened. All sidewalks are open and some construction remains in the ground floor retail and restaurant spaces. A formal ribbon cutting will take place Monday, December 10. L Street will be closed to through traffic beginning at 8 a.m. for the ceremony.

Horton

Balboa Theatre Update – Sidewalk Open – Blade Sign & Marquee in Place – First Performance January 19

The sidewalk alongside the historic 1924 Balboa Theatre on Fourth Avenue between E and F streets is has reopened to pedestrian traffic and the marquee blade sign has been installed as part of the Balboa Theatre restoration. The first performance in the restore Balboa Theater will be “Mark Twain Tonight” on January 19. Public Preview Showcases will take place on January 11, 12 and 13. Call (619) 235-2222 for details. For more information on performances and tickets, go to www.sandiegotheatres.org.

Marina

Children’s Park Enhancements begin December 6

Children’s Park, located in downtown San Diego’s Marina neighborhood between First and Island avenues, Front Street and the railroad corridor, is scheduled for improvements designed to enhance public safety and increase park use.

These improvements are a response to public requests and are strongly supported by CCDC and the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department.

The park has 16 grass mounds. In the enhanced design, the four corner mounds will remain in place, while the remaining 12 will be leveled and new grass installed. The 158 Canary Island pine trees are overgrown and excessively shade the park; 63 will be removed and the remainder will be trimmed. Those slated for removal were identified by a City of San Diego arborist and are marked in the field with an orange dot and number on the tree.

These changes will yield multiple benefits—increased visibility in the park, increased public usable park space, improved long-term health of both the trees and landscaping, and reduced maintenance costs.

CCDC will manage the work, which is scheduled to begin on December 6 and will be finished in January 2008. For questions please contact John Anderson (619) 533-7140 or Tara Lake (619) 533-7173.

Downtown Events

Snow in the Park – December 8

Fifty tons of snow will appear at the Park at the Park at PETCO Park at J Street and Eighth Avenue on Saturday, December 8. The fourth annual *Snow Day at the Park*, sponsored by Westfield Horton Plaza, the San Diego Padres, CCDC and a special group of San Diego Realtors begins at 9 a.m. and lasts until 1 a.m. or when the snow melts. Parking is available at Tailgate Park, the Padres Parkade at Tenth Avenue and J Street and at the Sixth and K Parkade. Regular trolley service is available, the closet station are Park Boulevard or the Gaslamp Station.

December Nights – December 7 and 8 – Shuttle Service From Tailgate Park

The 30th annual December Nights in Balboa Park takes place Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8. Events Friday begin at 5 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. Events Saturday begin at noon and end at 10 p.m. Parking is available at Tailgate Park for \$3.00 and free shuttle service is available from Tailgate Park to Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. For more information go to <http://www.balboapark.org/decemberevents>.

San Diego Bay Parade of Lights – December 9 and 16

The 36th Annual San Diego Bay Boat Parade of Lights will take place on San Diego Bay Sunday, December 9 and 16. Viewing areas include Seaport Village, Embarcadero Marina Park and the Convention Center. The Parade begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. For more information go to www.sdparadeoflights.org.

17th Annual Big Bay Balloon Parade – December 27

The Port of San Diego Big Bay Balloon Parade will be held December 27 on Harbor Drive. The parade starts at 10 a.m. in front of the County Administration building on Harbor Drive and finishes at Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway. The following streets will have full or partial closures beginning at 7:45 a.m. and ending at noon for the parade:

- Harbor Drive from Grape Street to Pacific Highway – Full closure
- Pacific Highway from Harbor Drive to Grape Street – One southbound lane

For more information go to www.holidaybowl.com.

Downtown Announcements

Coffee with CCDC President Nancy Graham – December 7

CCDC President Nancy Graham will give an overview of the many projects and topics facing downtown Friday, December 7, at 8 a.m. at The Leah Residence, 798 Ninth Avenue. The Leah Residence provides affordable apartments to formerly homeless women.

To subscribe to this bi-weekly e-mail update of downtown construction and special event activity, e-mail Smith@ccdc.com or call (619) 533-4147.

